

NURSING ASSISTANT ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES OF MEETING

OPEN SESSION

November 10, 2009

The Open Session of the Nursing Assistant Advisory Board was called to order at 9:04 a.m. on the above date in Room 104, Rhode Island Department of Health, 3 Capitol Hill, Providence, Rhode Island, pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Open Meetings Law, so called, and other applicable sections of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island as amended.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jamie A. Beauregard

Michele Carignan

Teresa Chopoorian

Alice Frezza

David P. Jasinski

Lourdes V. Pichardo

Donna M. Policastro

Irene A. Qi

Beverly A. St. Onge

BOARD MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Kathleen A. Butterfield

Laurie Salum

STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Donna Valletta, Board Administrator

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

None

1. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Donna Valletta called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. A quorum was established at this time.

2. REVIEW OF MINUTES OF OPEN SESSION OF October 6, 2009

Donna Valletta presented the Minutes of the Open Session of October 6, 2009. On motion of Donna Policastro, seconded by Irene Qi, it was unanimously voted to accept the minutes as presented. Donna Valletta informed the Nursing Assistant Advisory Board that the criteria for opening complaints against Nursing Assistants and Medication Aides is in draft form and upon its completion by the

Complaint Unit, it will be distributed to the Board.

3. BOARD ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

The Nursing Assistant Advisory Board schedule for 2010 meetings was distributed. Meetings will be held bimonthly on the second Tuesday of the month, beginning in January, from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm. The last scheduled meeting for 2009 is Tuesday, December 8, 2009.

Donna Valletta distributed Pearson VUE's Quarterly Training Program Reports from the NNAAP administration period of July 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009. Michele Carignan provided an overview of the data specific to her training program's written and skill examination tasks and results. Michele Carignan and Irene Qi both shared feedback from their knowledge and experience on training and testing Nursing Assistants. The Board inquired on the Department's role in the initial audit and subsequent renewals of training programs.

Following a discussion, the Board requested information from the Department of Education to compare its program review criteria and requirements. A concern was expressed on the employment of an individual program instructor as well as the timeliness of the quarterly reports. Donna Valletta reminded the Board that our jurisdiction only extends to our rules and regulations; however, she will express the Board concerns accordingly.

Donna Valletta reviewed the complaint review process for complaints against licensed Nursing Assistants and Medication Aides as well as the complaint file documents again. The Board will continue to work diligently on complaints to ensure that disciplinary actions are communicated in a timely manner. The Board requested clarification on home health agency policy regarding access by Nursing Assistant staff to client's cash and/or credit cards.

Donna reiterated that the Department is cognizant of the need to revise the rules and regulations and such concerns will be taken under advisement and discussed more thoroughly in the upcoming year.

4. ADJOURNMENT

It was unanimously voted to move into Executive Session pursuant to 42-46-4 and 42-46-5(1) of the Rhode Island General Laws for discussion of job performance, character, physical or mental health of applicants for licensure and licensees and for discussion of investigatory proceedings relating to misconduct by applicants licensure and licensees, and investigatory proceedings regarding allegations of civil or criminal misconduct. On motion of Alice Frezza, seconded by Beverly St. Onge, the Open Session was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Donna Valletta

Board Administrator